

Oh, That You were Taken Away

Fanny Mendelssohn

Oh, that you were taken away
Nevermore to return!
Since then all, all my happiness has been
Washed away by an ocean.

In vain I look toward the distant
Azure sky, calling to you.
Of all the stars only one
Answered: "He is with me!"

Oh, if it would only speak from the moving winds,
Oh, if it would only speak from out the trees, the herbs:
"He is within us!" I would conquer [my pain]!
But ah, from him there is no word, no sound!

The birds sing varied lays,
The water springs murmur joy and sorrow.
They speak. Oh, I would praise them,
If they revealed whither he went!

The stars resound, winds carry
Many a sound through the forest and meadow,
But if one wishes to inquire after the dead,
Nature gives no answer.